

Dean Blake,  
1820 Dale St.

(Gr.)

# California GARDEN



AUGUST  
1937

Flower  
Combinations

*By Azalea R. Bean*

Fall Flower Show  
Schedule

Solution Fertilizer  
Method

*By E. L. Prizer*

August Planting  
*By Walter Birch, Jr.*

## HARRIS SAYS:

Chrysanthemums and Bearded Iris do well planted this month.

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Third Tuesday of Each Month at Balboa Park

# CALIFORNIA GARDEN

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

## The San Diego Floral Association

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO  
P. O. Box 323, San Diego, Cal.

Main Office, San Diego, California

John D. Wimmer, Editor

August, 1937

Vol. 29

No. 2

Entered as second-class matter December 8, 1910, at the Post Office at Point Loma, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

California Garden is on the list of publications authorized by the San Diego Retail Merchants Association.

Rates on Request.

Advertising Copy should be in by the 25th of preceding month.

Subscription to Magazine, \$1.00 per year; Membership \$1.50 per year; Magazine and Membership combined, \$2.00 per year.

Meeting held third Tuesday of each month at Floral Bldg., Balboa Park, 7:30 P. M.

Toft Printing Co., 1129 2nd St., San Diego

## Flowers That Combine in Beauty

By AZALEA R. BEAN

Beauty may be in the "eye of the beholder" or it may be equally in his mood, but that evanescent moment that brings a sense of loveliness is quite as apt to be due to a combination of chance as to a planned effect. In fact be it man or woman who plants with a sure sense of beauty, be assured that he or she is a great artist indeed.

So to us lesser mortals, the lesson of creating beauty in a garden, is often a long one, needing experience and increasing knowledge to fit a color here, a pattern there, until we have formed a picture that pleases the eye and fulfills the laws of nature. Is there any gardener who in his first labored or perhaps unlaborious efforts, has not with joyful anticipation planned a color scheme of flowers especially loved, only to find that at the time of flowering—no two blossomed at the same time and some even refused to grow at all? But fortunately the heart of the true gardener is not long depressed and with such hardy courage he need not long fail to realize his dreams.

Shaded beds for flowers always seem to be a more difficult problem, but actually there is an amazing lot of charming plant material for these beds (if you care to grub for it) that is simply waiting the wave of your magic wand, modernly expressed as an order blank accompanied by a post-office money order.

Beginning at this moment your early spring garden dreams for 1938 should be all planned on paper and your ordering done before too many more weeks have passed into the discard. What could be lovelier for one order than the dainty pale blue Tritelia, to pop up among a group or border of the lovely, loose headed French Roman Hyacinths, in white, rose or the fine new light blues (featured this year by Stumpf and Walter) with the addition of Muscari, Heavenly Blue, all clustering around the feet of mauve or pink or white Azaleas. These precious bulbs all delightfully fill in the time, until the white baby primroses appear or the completely hardy Primrose chinensis or Primrose obconica begin their long blooming season. Do not forget that the old type of red and magenta does not have to be used, unless you wish it. The delicate blues and pinks and whites are all now available for your garden picture.

The lavender and so called blue tulips are grateful for a shaded position, so that their color may not fade before its time. Pink For-Get-Me-Nots, if you can find them, make a delicate ground cover for these, as do the deep purple Violas or gay big faced Pansies of many colors. Less frequently seen, but suited to a shaded spot, is the Golden Chain Tree (more nearly a slender growing shrub in this country) La-

burnam anagyroides, hanging its lemon flowers much like a smaller Wistaria and picking up the color of late yellow Tulips with no uncertain beauty. Especially is this true if the "Golden Chain" be planted so that the delicate flowers are silhouetted against the dark beauty of cypress.

For a last suggestion, in shaded spring combinations, blue and pink or white Scillas (a lovely family) are perfectly timed with long spurred bluish lavender Columbine to be followed by the later blooming Japanese Anemones in white and pink or rose. This is a perfect year around threesome, that is in complete accord as to situation. There is a catch even here. Be sure you purchase the Columbine in bloom if you want no mixture of hues.

As for combinations among sun loving flowers, of course there is no end. One, of yellow Daffodils both in pale and brilliant shades, combined with white dwarf Alyssum marching down a path in not too orderly a fashion, is one that I shall long remember. To this a ground cover of pale blue Pansies (yes they are available) may be substituted for the Alyssum. Or if you want a golden path use pale creamy Violas and Alyssum citrinum for your ground cover.

Summer brings the true perennial Verbena Blue Triumph (a lovely lavender blue) and its companion in charm the true soft pink Verbena, Beauty of Oxford. Together or separate they are ideal for a terrace edge, a rose garden edging or to trail over a wall or rock staircase. They demand so little and give

so much, that one always thinks of them with gratitude. *Nepeta musini* belongs to this cherubic group and its soft gray and lavender mist combined with the spicy little garden pinks of the *Alwoodi alpina* family is a joy to behold.

Just why it is difficult to purchase that charming sky blue *Salvia* known as *azurea*, is still a mystery. It precedes its true sister *Salvia pitcheri* of deep sapphire blue and together they give a long blooming season of great beauty. When backgrounded by the white mist of *Aster ericoides*, Star Shower and flanked at judicious intervals by *Rudbeckia purpurea* (the big pink magenta daisy of stunning form), you may be assured of a sight to turn your rival gardeners green with envy.

The good lavender *Nierembergia frutescens* planted with the true pink *Penstemon* is a recurringly satisfactory combination. Add to this the feathery white of a good *Gypsophila*, annual or perennial and place at their feet a thick ribbon of the pale blue *Lobelia*, so happy near the sea, and see if you do not have cause for pride in this picture.

But here and now let me utter a violent warning. If you truly desire to bring to perfection any picture in your garden, never attempt to work it out with a plant or two of each variety. Unless one uses enough plants of one variety to produce at blooming time a mass of color, to combine or contrast, your picture is of no value. Admitted that to any one horticulturally inclined it is always a temptation to buy one plant of a kind, just to see what it will be. Remember that this temptation must be put far from the garden minded who long to produce a finished and beautiful planting.

Now with that off our mind we can continue into the abundant bloom of autumn. If you haven't any of the lovely perennial *Asters* in your garden, find a good catalogue and see what has been going on in this family. Which reminds me that there is no better solution for your Iris beds than inter-planting of perennial *Asters*. They cover with their feathery and abundant flowers, the iris foliage which at this time of year is nothing to brag

about and they obligingly obliterate themselves at the time the Iris are in full bloom. *Aster frickarti* is a lovely thing, a dwarf variety and last year was available in California.

*Heleniums* also come into their own at this time of year. For a garden shading from yellow, through bronze to red, nothing could be finer than a background of *Helenium superbum* (clear yellow with large flowers), *Helenium autumnale rubrum*, splendid bronze and *Helenium autumn glow*, a deep rich ox-blood. The heads made up of large individual flowers of delightful form, make excellent cutting material. An intermediate planting of *Statice caspia*, delicate feathery mauve, is an interesting contrast and to add gaiety use the little Mexican *Zinnias* as a border.

The Dahlia too is coming into its own at this time of year. Many interesting ideas are being worked out in this plant family and the new miniatures on the market, are a joy to those interested in flower arrangement. For distance and mass planting the exhibition type is splendid. Personally it is my conviction that these plants belong as a separate group or else in a picking garden, if you wish to get the best flowers. Their habit of growth and individual need as to soil, fertilizing and watering, do not fit them for border or combination planting. Let it again be said however, that the small Dahlias for picking fill a barren period before the Chrysanthemums appear that make them invaluable to the feminine contingent of the household.

The varieties of Chrysanthemums, new and old is amazing, and if allowed by your editor, may I suggest that the catalogue put out by Elmer D. Smith and Company of Adrian, Michigan, is well worth writing for, if you are a fan on this subject. While individual types of this flower are not for combination planting, many of the new low bush types are charming and add richness and color to a late season border.

Although the object of this article is flower combinations, may I add as a last word, three beautiful inhabitants for California gardens that

## July Activities

By Ada Perry

Fred Wylie's travel pictures drew a big crowd at the July meeting of the Floral association and no one was disappointed. The nice man and his nice wife had a very nice trip east and south, and their photos reflected the occasion. It's hard to describe pictures but members saw through the Wylie lens (slight pun there) estates in the middle west, the Carolinas, Florida and New Orleans. There were human interest shots and some close-ups of rock gardens but, frankly, these didn't look any where as interesting as Fred "Rock Garden" Wylie's work in San Diego. Shots of Williamsburg, reconstructed colonial village were very fine.

This can't be a large report because the magazine is going to press. But it can be said that one of the largest crowds of the year was present for the program. Mr. Wylie also brought some vine specimens from the vine-wonder garden of Mr. V. M. Sale. Finally learned what that "bleeding heart" vine is—*Clerodendrum balfouri*—and some other vine mysteries were cleared up, thanks to Mr. Sale. Miss Sessions spoke briefly and presented a night-flowering, leaf-sleeping (at night) *Calliandra*, formerly *Inga*. It's a sweet plant.

Mrs. Mary A. Greer presided and  
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need only their own beauty to win our everlasting devotion. The Copper Beech, a tree of magnificent strength and beauty, one branch of which in a copper bowl, against a flat cream wall, gives one a feeling of serene perfection. The *Clematis montanum*, white, so satisfactory in our climate, asks only a balcony or trellis to embower in abundant spring loveliness. *Prunus halliana*, Hall's crabapple, hangs sharp pink buds like jewels, which open into tender pink flowers that are the epitome of spring.

Should anyone be interested in new Hybrid *Asters*. Wayside Garden, Mentor, Ohio, have a gorgeous supplement on "New Dwarf Hybrid Border *Asters*."

# The Solution Method of Fertilizing

By E. L. PRIZER

The science of feeding plants is much less understood than that of selecting proper foods for humans. The dietician is quite successful in planning a child's diet but the soil and plant expert is only able to speculate about the foods needed to bring a mottled and sickly plant back to vigor.

It is likely that the whole problem of feeding plants would become a relatively simple one were it not for the fact that we find it necessary to grow plants in soil. Dr. Gericke of the University of California has produced luscious tomatoes, potatoes, and other crops in tubs of water with only a small amount of pure chemicals and no soil. However we have not reached that plane of social economics where all of our crops may be grown in water tanks.

It is this unknown factor of a chemically and biologically complex soil which defeats the plant nutritionist. A chemical analysis of a certain soil offers little aid in determining what fertilizers should be applied for best results. There are nine chances to one that the materials will never reach the roots in available form but will be locked up in chemical combination with some affinity in the soil mass. In fact, of the ten or eleven elements considered necessary for plant growth, there are only three, namely, nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium, which are commonly recommended for crop fertilization.

The benefits obtained from the use of nitrogen may be largely attributed to its freedom of movement in soils without becoming tied up in some permanently insoluble combination. In nitrate form it is transported by soil moisture in a readily available state for root absorption. However due to the more or less haphazard movement of soil moisture as influenced by irrigation and rainfall we find that the nitrates are only occasionally properly situated in the root zone. They may be found in the surface crust area or, too commonly, have moved many

feet down in the subsoil.

The use of the solution method for fertilizer application has been found effective in localizing nitrates in the root area and also has resulted in less wastage of these materials from the soil. This method consists in dissolving sulphate of ammonia, nitrate of lime, or some other nitrogen bearing chemical fertilizer in the irrigation water in small amounts at each irrigation. In this way plants may be regularly fed nitrates in amounts suitable for all growth needs without allowing them enormous excesses which would be washed away in subsequent irrigations.

This method is now extensively used on all kinds of crops and under different types of irrigation practice. Last year one fertilizer concern claims to have sold 9,000,000 pounds of nitrogen fertilizer which was entirely used in irrigation water on such crops as citrus, cotton, potatoes, lettuce, alfalfa, corn and beans. It is now estimated that 150,000 acres of California's soil are being largely fertilized by this method.

Fertilizer applicators have been developed which automatically introduce the soluble chemicals into both the furrow and sprinkling type of irrigation system. Where water is run in furrows, a small stream of dissolved fertilizer is introduced continuously. Under the sprinkling method however, it is only injected during the early portion of the sprinkling period to allow clear water to wash it off the foliage and soak the elements down into the soil.

Possibly the greatest advantage of this method of application is that it lends itself well to handling the highly concentrated and powerful chemical fertilizers. One may dissolve an ounce or a hundred pounds of material and evenly distribute it over an acre of land. Often only traces of some plant food elements are necessary to correct an unhealthy condition in plant growth

and this may become the means by which it can be effectively applied.

At present nitrogen is the principle element applied in this manner. However, phosphates appear to reach deeper into the root area if successive applications are made in the irrigation water. Sulphur solutions are also now distributed in this way to improve the bacterial condition of soils and cause a greater liberation of other elements.

The indications are that this scheme of dissolving chemical fertilizers in irrigation water will become a more common practice in the future. Soil chemists freely estimate that seventy to ninety percent of fertilizers broadcast on soils are lost for one reason or another. We are beginning to realize that millions of dollars worth of these materials have become locked up in unrecoverable combinations in the surface area or have been leached far below the root zone. We are still a long way from knowing what foods we should give plants but we are finding new ways to carry it to them more economically.

## S. D. County Fair

Entries have been received from all parts of Southern California for the giant floral showing at the San Diego County Fair. The director in charge of the floriculture and nursery department says that there are already sufficient displays entered to assure visitors the most complete and varied exhibition ever staged in the Southland. Both amateur and professional gardeners are cooperating with Fair authorities who have posted cash prizes totaling \$4,800 for exhibitors.

Two of the outstanding displays that will thrill the visitors of the '37 fair are those of the La Jolla Chamber of Commerce and the official entry of the City of San Diego. Fanciers will find many rare and unusual flowers from neighboring counties which include; San Bernardino, Orange, Imperial and Riverside. The numerous civic and club entries, however, do not compete with private displays and the exhibitor may win a large prize with only

(Continued on Page 8)

# A Garden Spendthrift . . . .

By A BEGINNER

In considering the expense of a garden you think first of such fundamental items as top soil, fertilizer, lawnmowers, shrubs, trees, plants and seeds. You may foresee the water bills and a spade, rake and trowel. It is possible that you will include the hose (it turns out that hoses are always very plural), and you may be clairvoyant enough to vision the pots and a dozen or so stakes.

But then you have made only the barest kind of a beginning. There is yet to be purchased the assortment of sprinklers which huddles on the shelf in the garage while one particularly effective one is taken around from place to place. There are still to come the hand cultivator, the expensive clippers, the pruning shears. There are great balls of twine and raffia. Your original dozen stakes are nothing more than paltry beside the forest you finally acquire. There are times when it would seem cheaper to grow your own bamboo for staking purposes. Then there are the sprayers. The little one that you buy first because it is cheap and will do. The bigger one that you buy when the little one has brought on your neuritis. The biggest one that makes you lop-sided to carry. There is a dust puffer.

To fill these you become a Borgia in the making. Your poison shelf contains something nice for snails and something nicer for the gophers. There are cans and bottles of pyrethrum, rotenone, lead arsenate, sulphur and fungicides in serried rows. Not content with being a poisoner, you become an alchemist dealing in strange chemicals. There is the ammonium sulphate for the lawn. You are always confusing it with aluminum sulphate for the gardenias and Camellias. There is iron oxide, jointly for the dismay of the snails and the delight of the roses. You have a patented fertilizer in a carton and its humbler local relative in a sack. You have a fertilizer spreader.

Your implements have been aug-

mented by a bamboo lawn rake, a dibbler for bulb, a pair of spades, and you contemplate a water lance. You have two sizes of watering pot and you wish for a third. The bamboo stakes have been supplemented with stout wooden dahlia sticks and zinc labels have replaced wood ones on your roses. You have built a garden closet to hold all this impedimenta. Now you think the outlay is almost at an end.

But now you realize that all the expense of a garden is not outdoors. There are the silk stockings you tear among the roses or break out in the knee when you plant seedlings. There are the shoes you really meant to save which went into the perennial border with you once or twice when something needed staking, unexpectedly, after a rain. There is the good glove you ruined pulling up a Hyacinth in passing by one day. There are snags and stains on garments you never intended for garden wear. The hat you thought you could still use on the street this summer, is as sunburned as your neck. You buy garden gloves and wear them out. You begin to suspect that though the glove is not velvet, the hand is iron, it comes through so easily.

Nor is this the sum of it all. There are the extra manicures because gloves will leak. There are futile attempts to remove at least a few of the never freckles. There are the wash dresses for garden wear that do have to be washed again and again. And worst of all, you cannot seem to work up any proper repentance for so much extravagance. Finally you discover to your own horror that you are actually hesitating between the purchase of a new hat and a choice selection of named bulbs. When this stage is reached, you are lost in the garden. For better or for worse, you are a garden spendthrift.

Patronize "California  
Garden" Advertisers

# The Weed

I shall uproot this weed,  
This tall and elegant weed with her  
head in the sky,  
So that the Phlox and Godetia shall  
not be invaded  
And choked by the sly  
Insolent roots of this stranger.  
Regretful of beauty that will be rus-  
set and gay  
All through the winter, when Phlox  
and Godetia are withered  
And done with the bearing of seed.  
I shall forget them by autumn,  
But never this weed.

Virginia McKenzie Smith.

## — Notes —

### HEMEROCALLIS

We would like to say a word about the old fashioned Day Lily. It is one of the hardiest of perennials and will tolerate extremes of moisture, sun or partial shade. We are no longer limited by the two best known, *Hemerocallis flava* (yellow) and *fulva* (orange), but can choose from a hundred varieties now on the market. The colors range from red, pink, apricot, salmon and orange to buff, citron, gold and cream. By selection the season of bloom is extended from May to November. From pests it is practically free and a clump may be left undisturbed for four or five years. To us it seems a satisfactory solution for the California gardeners' continual search for something which will give color and good foliage with little care through our hot summer months. Each flower lasts only a day but the plant flowers for a long period.

### ASSORTED VIOLAS

The mixed colors of the small Violas make a very satisfactory spring and summer border plant. They grow so easily, increase in their bushiness so rapidly, are such tidy free flowering plants and are more artistic for cutting than the large giant Pansy. The interested gardener should observe them this sum-  
(Continued on Page 8)

# Schedule of Classes for Fall Flower Show .

PLAZA—BALBOA PARK

AUGUST 28-29

## SECTION A—AMATEURS

### Dahlias

- \* 1. Collection 12 Dahlias, 12 varieties, one bloom each (small varieties excluded). Prize competitive cup to be won for three years.
- 2. Three Blooms Cactus, one or more varieties.
- 3. Three Blooms Semi-Cactus, one or more varieties.
- 4. Three Blooms, Formal Decorative, one or more varieties.
- 5. Three Blooms, Informal Decorative, one or more varieties.
- 6. Three Blooms Miniature, one or more varieties, not over 3½ inches in diameter.
- 7. Three Blooms Fancy or Varigated, one or more varieties.
- 8. Three Blooms Pompons, one or more varieties.
- 9. Three Blooms Show or Ball, one or more varieties.
- 10. Three Blooms, Single, one or more varieties.
- 11. One Bloom Cactus.
- 12. One Bloom Semi-Cactus.
- 13. One Bloom Formal Decorative.
- 14. One Bloom, Informal Decorative.
- 15. One Bloom Miniature, not over 3½ inches in diameter.
- 16. One Bloom Fancy or Varigated.
- 17. One Bloom Pompon.
- 18. One Bloom Show or Ball.
- 19. One Bloom, Single.
- 20. Collection of Cactus and Semi-Cactus, one bloom each variety.
- 21. Collection Formal and Informal Decorative, one bloom each variety.
- 22. Collection Pompons, three blooms each variety.
- 23. Collection Collarettes, three blooms each variety.
- \* 24. Most Artistic Basket of Dahlias, other foliage permitted.
- \* 25. Most Artistic Arrangement Vase or Bowl of Dahlias, other foliage permitted.
- \* DAHLIA SWEEPSTAKES  
San Diego Floral Association Silver Medal.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Copies of the schedule may be obtained at any of the following stores: Albright's Farm and Garden, Dunning's Inc., Harris Seed Co., and Millar Seed Co. The Show Building, at the south-west corner of the main Plaza, will be open at 7:30 A. M. Saturday, August 28 for exhibitors. Displays must be completed by 11:00 A. M. For more particular information, please telephone to any of the flower show chairmen whose names are given on the following page.

## SECTION B Open to All Competitors

### Dahlias.

- 26. Display of Miniature Dahlias not over 3½ inches in diameter.
- 27. Established Three-year-old Seedling.
- 28. Display of Undisseminated Seedlings. (Undisseminated applies to a variety not as yet offered for sale nor introduced into Commerce.)
- 29. 1936 Seedling.
- 30. Most Artistic Basket of Pompons, use of other foliage permitted.
- \* One Best Bloom Exhibited, stem and foliage considered.

## SECTION C—PROFESSIONALS

### Dahlias

- \* 31. General Display Arranged for Effect, potted plants and foliage allowed for embellishment.
- 32. Six Blooms, any variety.
- 33. Six Blooms Cactus, one or more varieties.
- 34. Six Blooms Semi-Cactus, one or more varieties.
- 35. Six Blooms Formal Decorative, one or more varieties.
- 36. Six Blooms, Informal Decorative, one or more varieties.
- 37. Collection Pompons, three blooms each variety.
- \* 38. Best Largest Collection Standard Varieties. Names attached.

## SECTION D—AMATEURS

### Zinnias

- \* 39. Collection of Zinnias.
- 40. Three Blooms Zinnias, Red or Red Shades.

- 41. Three Blooms Zinnias, White or White Shades.

- 42. Three Blooms Zinnias, Pink or Pink Shades.

- 43. Three Blooms Zinnias, Orange or Orange Shades.

- 44. Three Blooms Zinnias, Yellow or Yellow Shades.

- 45. Three Blooms Zinnias, Lavender or Lavender Shades.

- 46. Three Blooms, any color not classified.

- 47. Three Blooms, picotee type.

- 48. Twenty-five Blooms Zinnias, small Mexican.

- 49. Collection Lilliput Zinnias.

- 50. Display Novelty Type. Example Fantasy and Quilled.

- 51. Arranged Vase or Bowl of Zinnias.

- 52. Arranged Basket of Zinnias.

## ZINNIA SWEEPSTAKES, San Diego Floral Association Bronze Medal.

## SECTION E—AMATEURS

### Flower Arrangements

- 53. Arranged Vase, Bowl or Dish of Flowers.
- 54. An Arrangement of Flowers in Shades of Yellow.
- 55. An Arrangement of Flowers in Shades of Pink.
- 56. An Arrangement of Flowers in Shades of Lavender or Blue.
- 57. An Arrangement of White Flowers in White Container.
- 58. An Arrangement of Flowers in Copper, Brass or Bronze Container.
- 59. An Arrangement of Flowers in Silver or Pewter Container.
- 60. Arrangement of Flowers with Background. (By the State College Art Department.)
- 61. An Arrangement of Flowers or Foliage after the Oriental Manner.
- 62. An Arrangement of Foliage, Berries or Pods.
- 63. Composition of Fruit and/or Vegetables, Foliage and Flowers Allowed.
- 64. Arrangements of Flowers and/or Foliage with Stones.
- 64-A. Arrangements in Bottles Exhibited by San Diego Junior League.
- 65. French Bouquets.

\* SWEEEPSTAKES FOR CLASSES 53 TO 65 INCLUSIVE.

First and Second Prizes.

Judging Points

Distinction	20%
Relation of Flowers to Container	20%
Color Harmony	20%
Proportion	20%
Quality	20%

\* 66. Dining Table.

\* 67. Tea Table.

\* 68. Breakfast Table.

SECTION F—AMATEURS

69. Display of Asters, Double Type.

70. Display of Asters, Single Type.

71. Display of Marigolds.

72. Display of Petunias.

73. Display of Roses.

74. Collection of Perennials, not less than twelve varieties.

75. Collection of Annuals, not less than twelve varieties.

76. Display of Any Flower Not Otherwise Classified.

\* SWEEEPSTAKES FOR CLASSES 69 TO 76 INCLUSIVE.

SECTION G—OPEN TO ALL Lath House Subjects

77. Exhibit of Potted Fibrous tall growing Begonias.

78. Exhibit of Potted Fibrous low growing Begonias.

79. One Specimen Potted Fibrous Begonia.

80. Collection of Potted Tuberous Begonias.

81. One Specimen Potted Tuberous Begonia.

82. Collection Rex Begonias grown in pots or boxes.

83. Collection of Ferns.

84. Decorative House Plant.

85. Collection of Coleus.

86. Specimen Rex Begonia, San Diego Seedling, grown in pots or boxes.

87. General Exhibit of Begonias grown in pots or boxes.

88. Specimen Maidenhair Fern.

89. Specimen Fern other than Maidenhair.

90. Fern Hanging Basket.

\* SWEEEPSTAKES FOR CLASSES 77 TO 90 INCLUSIVE.

SECTION H—OPEN TO ALL Miscellaneous

91. Flowering Vine (flowers and foliage).

92. Collection of Cut Sprays Flowering Trees or Shrubs.

93. Displayed collection of Semi-Tropical Fruits.

94. Displayed Collection of Gourds.

95. Potted Plant in Flower for Patio or Garden.

96. Exhibit of Summer Flowering Lilies.

97. Display of Gladiolas.

98. Collection of Fuchsias.

99. Display of Geraniums.

100. Single Specimen Cactus.

101. Collection of Six Cacti.

102. Collection of Twelve Cacti.

103. Single Specimen Succulent.

104. Collection of Six Succulents.

105. Collection of Twelve Succulents.

106. Dish or Tray Garden.

107. Miniature Garden.

\* SWEEEPSTAKES FOR CLASSES 91 TO 107 INCLUSIVE.

\* 108. Still Life Pictures.

First and Second Prizes.

\* 109. Miniature Arrangement Four Inches over all. Limit Three Entries.

\* 110. Display from Civic, State or National Institution.

SECTION I—PROFESSIONAL

\* 111. Collection of Decorative Plants and Flowers arranged for effect in space 100 square feet.

112. Collection of Petunias.

113. Collection of Zinnias.

114. Collection of Asters.

\* 115. Arranged Basket of Flowers.

116. Banquet Tables.

117. Exhibit of Water Lilies.

\* 118. Best Display of Cut Flowers.

119. Best Exhibit of Garden Pottery (limit 20 pieces). Open to all.

\* OUTSTANDING DISPLAY IN SHOW. San Diego Floral Association Silver Medal.

FLOWER SHOW CHAIRMEN

Dahlias—Mrs. George Gardner, Bayview 3778; Mrs. C. M. Hosmer, H. 1101.

Zinnias—Mr. W. H. Gibbs, H. 1550.

Arrangements in Baskets, Bowls and Dishes—Pieter Smoor, Phone Main 4875, Miss Etta Schwieder, H. 4950, and Mrs. John Nuttall, H. 3065.

Still Life Pictures—Mrs. Esther Barney, H. 1550-J.

Miniature Arrangements—Miss Charlotte Braun, B. 3954.

Annuals and Perennials—Mrs. E. W. S. Delacour. Phone H. 4021; Mrs. Grace Treby, Phone H. 2011-J.

Cacti and Succulents—Mrs. E. W. S. Delacour, H. 4021.

Dining Tables — Mrs. Lester A. Wright, F. 2261.

Lath House Subjects—Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Tucker, H. 7154-W.

Clerking—Mrs. Elsie Case.

Nomenclature—

Chairman of Judges—

Secretary—Mrs. M. E. Ward. Phone Hill. 3132-J.

Treasurer—Mr. Frederick G. Jackson. General Chairman—Mrs. M. A. Greer. Phone Hill. 1550-J.

Assistant Chairman — Mrs. George Gardner, Bayview 3778.

## June Activities

(Continued from Page 2)

announced the 28th and 29th of August as the fall flower show dates. She also very appropriately suggested that everyone begin taking super-care of Zinnias and Dahlias for the show—it takes more than a week to grow prize flowers—and she quite determinedly announced a class for Geraniums—"to keep up with the rest of the world." So, begin potting up the Geraniums too.

NOTICE. The chairman of the Garden Contest Committee wishes to announce that the final judging of the gardens will be on Monday, August 30.

"Basket weave" pattern is static. The eye is not carried along in any single direction by this design and it is especially suited for terraces and terminal features.

"Look that thou hedge thy possessions about with thorns . . . for where no hedge is, there thy possession is spoiled."

# Horticultural Facts . . . .

By KATE O. SESSIONS

"The National Horticultural Magazine," October, 1936, has a very interesting article on the history of plant introduction to America. It lists the collectors and gives the dates and locations of the early arboreta, botanical gardens and nurseries that were first established.

The first plants introduced were the fruiting trees from Europe in the early 17th century, only 300 years ago. A hundred years later a botanical garden was located in Philadelphia. At first there were only trees but later ornamentals were collected. To a limited degree, Europe received plants from Asia via India and in turn supplied America. In 1773, one John Bartram of Pennsylvania, published the first list of native American trees. In his arboretum are now living many of those first planted trees only 164 years old. A botanical garden was started in Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1800, which still exists and is now the property of Harvard University.

The Lewis and Clarke Expedition of 1806 was sent by the United States government to the Pacific Coast in order to collect and bring many of the western trees to the east. An interesting fact is that the oldest *Sequoia gigantea* specimen in eastern North America is in the nursery established in 1825 by the Painter Brothers. The tree is now 114 years old.

Only 99 years ago, Samuel B. Parsons and his brother Robert established a nursery at Flushing, Long Island. It was this Samuel who made the plan for Balboa Park in 1903. In 1872 the Arnold Arboretum was founded near Boston as a department of Harvard with Charles S. Sargent as its director.

Mr. Sargent visited San Diego twice. The first time, about 1895, he called at my nursery in the corner of the Park and advised me to send a collector to Mexico for new plants as that field was so rich botanically. About ten years later he called again. He was seeking here the plant known as Mountain Mahogany, *Ceratopetalum parvifolius*, which I located for him in a canyon near Kensington Park. This plant is one of our small and choice evergreen shrubs and is found growing in many sections of the coast foothills.

In 1905, J. G. Jack brought from Korea the first Rhododendrons from that country. In 1907, Mr. E. W. Wilson was sent by the Arnold Arboretum to Asia collecting. He remained for three years and secured over 2000 varieties of plants, cuttings and seeds. Many of these were not only new to cultivation but new to science. One was the Beauty Bush that Miss Amy Strong has growing so beautifully at her Ramona home. His two fine books describing those years are in our public library and are very interesting. He also wrote of the Arnold Arboretum, "America's Greatest Garden," which is a real treasure to own. The day I called at the arboretum in 1925 I bought the book and Mr. Wilson autographed it for me, for at that time he had become keeper of the garden.

The most recent American collector in the Far East is J. F. Rock who, in 1925-26 brought back many valuable plants, especially many Rhododendrons. These plants were shared by the University of California and the U. S. Bureau of Plant Introductions. The very fine Rhododendrons now growing in Golden Gate Park, many are new,

are from this collection.

All of these dates and facts make us realize how recently this great horticultural industry has been developing. Dr. L. H. Bailey reported a year ago, when he was here on a three-day visit, that botanical education had greatly improved in recent years and the subject is being more seriously appreciated.



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# August Planting . . .

By WALTER BIRCH

This month is the month when you need to give everything plenty of water, don't just sprinkle your plants, irrigate them thoroughly, let the water soak in deep.

When sowing seeds this month be sure and cover the flats or seed beds with a single strip of burlap or some kind of mulch, because if you don't the surface will crust over and smother the young sprouts before they get through the ground. Even with this cover the young seedlings should be watered at least twice a day. If you cover the seeds with burlap be sure and raise it about the time the first sprouts break through.

Some of the flowers which may be started successfully this month are: Calendulas, either the Chrysanth or Sensation; Candytuft for borders; Cosmos, the Anemone Flowered and the ordinary single varieties; Centaureas, either the Sweet Sultan type or the old reliable Bachelor Button or Cornflower; Cinerarias, both the tall Stellata varieties and the dwarf large flowered sorts. Be sure and plant the Cineraria seed in a cool situation as they don't like the heat. The little Double Daisies or Bellis perennis may well be started this month; Nasturtiums, the Semi-double Gleam Hybrids, Scarlet Gleam and Golden Gleam varieties are about the most attractive. The golden also comes in a real dwarf variety called Golden Gem, just the same color as Golden Gleam but a compact plant which is more suitable for some locations. Portulaca for dry sunny beds and borders; Salpiglossis also prefer rather a dry condition, after the plants have become established and developed a good root system. If you want to squander four bits for some extra large Pansies, try the Engelmann's good assortment of colors. The flowers are certainly good sized. Sweet Peas may be planted starting the latter part of this month, and many people have found it a good thing to inoculate the Sweet Pea seed with a nitrogen gathering bacteria such as "Ni-

tragin." This is now put up in small ten cent packets so it doesn't cost much to try it. Some of the good old stand-by varieties of Early Flowering Sweet Peas are hard to beat: Early Giant, rose, Early Harmony, lavender; Early Vulcan, a good bright red, Early Amethyst, purple, Early Othello, deep maroon; Early Snowstorm, white and Early Oriental, cream. Snapdragons may be started this month, the so called Rust Proof varieties are still the best, but they are not immune to what is so far known as the Number Two rust. They are however very resistant to the common type of Snapdragon rust and this is the most common one. Keep the plants growing well and fast and they will more than likely succeed. Stocks, the Early Giant Imperial type make by far the best cut-flowers and come either in mixture or in a number of separate colors.

Vegetables for August planting: Beans, if you want something really good in a Pole Bean try Morses 191, a rust resistant variety that produces long tender stringless pods in great profusion, Pole Fordhooks are the latest thing in Lima Beans, but they must be grown on poles or a fence. This also applies to the 191 Beans. The Burpees Stringless Green Pod and Stringless Black Valentine are good bush beans. Carrots, Turnips, Beets, Spinach, Mustard Greens, Onions and Peas may be planted this month.

We learn that New Mexico has abandoned the grilling of motor tourists at her ports-of-entry and substituted helpful informational aid. Other states might well adopt similar policies and do away the European-like customs houses which so irk travelers.

Santa Barbara hangs out no "welcome" sign for the "tin can tourists" who make their homes in "houses on wheels" as they fit over the highways of the nation. Permission to establish a trailer camp grounds, on the beach, was vigorously refused.—Desert Plant Life.

## — Notes —

(Continued from Page 4)

mer for their good lasting qualities and plan to plant them early in the fall.

The Blue Convolvulus mauritanicus could be more generously planted—there can hardly be too much grown—in sun or semi-shade.

Adjuga for shade is a permanent ground cover. The San Francisco ornamental strawberry makes a choice ground cover for foliage and large white flowers and has no fruit. It flourishes in both shade and semi-shade but in full sun it needs water. It increases rapidly and can be shared with garden friends.

As we see more and more residences built in the contemporary functional style of architecture it is surprising that the landscaping is not made to follow suit. The modernist designer in gardens should tend toward simplification of materials and plants used. The lovely, jumbled planting suitable for an Ann Hathaway cottage is not for the severity of a modern stucco house. We rather expect to see great paved areas, low plants, clipped and formal which repeat those functional lines of the house but see usually the 1890 billowy foundation planting which at that time had its vogue. Our nursery men might well subscribe to a good foreign garden magazine and see what is going on in the world.

## S. D. County Fair

(Continued from Page 3)

one rose or any other single item in the show.

Among San Diego County Florists who will help make the flower show a success are the following exhibitors: The Rancho Santa Fe Garden Club, The Comstock Dahlia Gardens, The Rockleigh Dahlia Gardens, The Terrace Gardens Nursery and hundreds of others. Every flower lover in Southern California will find his favorite flower and plant on display at the County Fair Aug. 7 to 15 inclusive.

# Question Box . . .

**By R. R. McLean**

**QUESTION:** Will you be kind enough to give me directions for making a compost pile? How long does it take the material to rot?

Mrs. J.

**ANSWER:** Some months ago John Fletcher gave the following directions in the California Garden: "Make a hole above ground, as the Irishman would say, a square hole made of strong detachable planks. Place at the bottom of the hole sufficient drainage material to allow surplus water to run off and place over this a layer of garden soil; then alternate layers of a mixture of garden refuse, kitchen garbage and animal remains, with fairly thick layers of garden soil. When you reach the top of the pile, top it with another fairly thick layer of garden soil, and water occasionally during the dry summer months. In a few months' time the compost will be ready for the garden and by detaching one side of the enclosure easy access can be gained to the pile and the contents easily removed." The writer would add to the above directions that it is desirable to include any old hay or straw—as alfalfa hay and bean straw that may be available from time to time. Also, a handful or two of gypsum scattered over each layer of the compost increases its value considerably, particularly if it is to be used in heavy soil.

**QUESTION:** Several years ago I planted several Australian bluebells along a fence. For a long time they did beautifully but last fall they began to look brown and ragged. They have been well irrigated and cared for. Can you suggest any treatment? L. R.

**ANSWER:** Your experience is what many others report in connection with this plant. It is quite satisfactory for a period of years, then begins to go back. It is quite susceptible to insect attack, principally mealy bugs and soft brown scales and when this occurs, treatment must be thorough and prompt if serious injury is to be avoided. In any event, if your plants are dying back now, it is probably useless

to try to bring them back. It would be much better to renew them or plant something else instead.

**QUESTION:** I have some plants that have not done very well, particularly heathers. I am told now that my soil isn't right, that it should be more acid than it is. How can the condition of the soil be changed?

K. L. R.

**ANSWER:** It is true that heathers belong to a group of plants requiring an acid soil for their best development. It is also true that practically all of our soils are much more alkaline than acid. Two chemicals that can be used to acidify the soil are aluminum sulphate and ordinary sulphur. Pine needles, oak leaf mold and German or Swedish peat moss are also useful for this purpose besides supplying a mulch that heathers and many other plants find congenial.

**QUESTION:** Will you please answer the following in The San Diego Union as soon as possible? The grass, blue grass and clover, in the back yard has died out owing to a wisteria on a trellis making it very shady. Don't want to cut wisteria down and surely want a lawn. Can you suggest a grass that will grow in shade, or anything else, grass preferable?

H. H. B.

**ANSWER:** Presumably the wisteria not only shades the grass but its roots quickly take the moisture and plant food that the grass needs. In that event you will need a grass, or grasses, that will not only withstand shade but that will submit to some dryness as well.

One of the best grasses for rather dry locations is Pacey's rye grass. Another good grass for such a situation is Chewing's fescue. It has a low water requirement since less water is lost by transpiration from the leaves. It also seems to thrive where trees take nearly all the available plant food as well as moisture from the soil. It has the ability to form a thick, close turf

which also helps to reduce the evaporation of soil water. One of the blue grasses, *Poa trivialis*, does very well in shady places but requires a little more water than Chewing's fescue. Bermuda grass and lippia are, of course also available but do not make a real lawn as do the others named. Seeds of the grasses named are usually available at local seed stores although occasionally they may have to order Chewing's Fescue. Be sure to specify New woodland grown fescue. The writer has tried this mixture under a large palm tree where blue grass and clover simply will not grow and finds it very satisfactory indeed. Palm roots come right to the surface and are notorious water and plant food robbers. You might have the seed mixed two parts fescue and v part each Pacey's rye grass and *Poa trivialis*.

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